

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention relates to an article comprising a catalyst composition and a method useful for the removal of  $\text{NO}_x$  and  $\text{SO}_x$  contaminants from a gaseous stream, especially gaseous streams containing sulfur oxide contaminants. More specifically, the present invention is concerned with catalysts of the type generally referred to as "close coupled catalysts" which are designed to reduce pollutants in engine exhaust emissions during engine cold start conditions. The article comprises a lean burn gasoline engine having an exhaust outlet, an upstream section having a close coupled catalyst composite in communication with the exhaust outlet, and a downstream section. The upstream close coupled catalyst composite comprises a first support; a first platinum group component; and a  $\text{SO}_x$  sorbent component selected from the group consisting of oxides and mixed oxides of barium, lanthanum, magnesium, manganese, neodymium, praseodymium, and strontium. The downstream section comprises a second support; a second platinum group component; and a  $\text{NO}_x$  sorbent component. The upstream section has substantially no components adversely affecting three-way conversion under operating conditions.